THE
WRESTLING FLYER
NEWSLETTER

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INTERVIEW
MARTY JANNETTY

BY JOHN CLARK

JC: How did you originally get started in pro wrestling or first become interested in it?

MJ: Well I wrestled in high school and college, went to the University of Auburn a couple years. Back at the time, they had to drop a guys' sport or add a girls' sport, so they dropped wrestling. So I went to the University of Georgia, just in time for them to drop theirs. I played a little football too, but wrestling was my main thing. After that fell apart, I tried to get a job and make a little money for the summer and found out that that wasn't what I wanted to do. So it was going to be wrestling and I went to Jerry Oates, a guy from my hometown of Columbus, Georgia, and asked him to please show me the ropes, get me the hell out of truck driving. He did that and I started out in Kansas City for Bob Giegel, that was All-Star Wrestling.

JC: What were you earning when you started out and how were the working conditions back then?

MJ: That was back in '85, I think I started out like around $600 to $700 a week. That was good for me cause I was used to making $200 a week working 40-50 hours a week. The crowds were still decent back then in the Central States area and good fan support, so I was enjoying myself and learning and stepping on up as I was going.

JC: When did you actually have your first professional match?

MJ: The very first match I had was somewhere outside of Atlanta, Georgia, late in '84. I think it was, I'm not sure, I'm getting old, I can't remember the year. Then I worked in the Central States area for Bob Giegel, the promoter, and Bulldog Bob Brown was the booker.

JC: How did you first get hooked up with Shawn Michaels?

MJ: I was already in the Central States area and doing well and he came through, he was just breaking in. Bob Giegel tagged us up once, he needed a tag match on the card so he threw us together and things just went real well. There was a click there, the chemistry was right. We could see it, the fans could see it, promoters could see it, but at the time, we both had other commitments going on, so we couldn't stay together. So Shawn took off and went back to Texas and I went to the AWA with Verne Gagne. They wanted a tag team and they asked me who I'd like for a partner and I said, Shawn Michaels cause we did very well. So they brought him in and we were called The Midnight Rockers and things

just took off from there.

JC: How was it working for Verne Gagne now that you look back on it?

MJ: It was okay, it was an ideal situation because you didn't work a whole lot. You only worked maybe 13-14 days a month. The pay could have been better, but it was still good. But I was hearing what the guys were making in the WWF and the NWA, and I wanted the big bucks of course, as everybody always does. It was still an increase from Kansas City, but it still wasn't the top pay. But I was young and I didn't know any better, always wanting the top pay and I probably wasn't worth it at the time.

JC: From being there in the AWA for a while, what would be your opinion about why the AWA failed?

MJ: Well I think Verne Gagne lied and cheated and took advantage of the boys too much. He screwed a lot of people over, he stepped on a lot of toes, he did a lot of lying, and that caused a lot of the guys to miss his cards and not show up for some of the shows. And the fans didn't take that too well. You know, if they came to see the Freebirds against the Road Warriors and neither one showed up, well they didn't come back anymore. While I was there, they were drawing $89,000 houses. But when the Road Warriors left, it cut it in half, it went down to about $40,000. And when the Freebirds left, it went down to about $20,000 and people started dwindling out from there and it just kept dropping. The problem was money. Verne was an egomaniac for one and he was just overly greedy. The way I understood it, he used to be a good payoff man, but he started getting some competition from the WWF. He started getting worried and started holding on to a little more of the money, instead of paying the guys. He really made some bad payoffs and ripped a few of the guys off, obviously, I know from my own personal experiences, I've heard some unbelievable lies. But I had no choice at the time, neither did Shawn. At the time, we had to take it and swallow it and keep going. But these other guys who are known drawing cards could go other places, they didn't have to take the crap, and that's why they left.

JC: I guess you left the AWA in 1987 because the WWF wanted you to come and work for them.

MJ: Yeah, I think he (Vince McMahon) saw a marketing value in us. I imagine he saw our abilities as wrestlers and when we started drawing crowds for Verne, he saw that their was a potential of making money there. Our first night there, Vince threw his first meeting for all the boys. It was about the boys needing to do right in clubs (nightclubs) and present yourself professionally in and out of the ring. Well, that very night we went out to a bar and you know, we were trying to meet all the guys, hang out, and be part of the gang. And we were partying and we may have got too loud and a couple glasses broke here and there, and some things happened. He said he thought that we needed to do a little growing up first, so he gave us a little time off, which ended up being a year before we came back. Our first time was in '87 and then he brought us back in '88. I think that if we hadn't gone out that night and partied a little too hard, we would have started in '87. Of course, by the time the word got back to him about what happened at the club, it was stretched way out of proportion. To him, he got the story we caught the couch on fire at the local hotel and had to throw the couch in the swimming pool to let it out. He heard a completely different story than what was going on and he thought we were a couple monsters. I mean Vince has been out with the fellas, he's cut loose a couple of times. I reminded him one time that he let us go for the very thing he was doing.

JC: From hearing that, I'm surprised the Nasty Boys haven't been kicked out yet.

MJ: I tell you what, they've done a lot worse than we ever did. But there my buddies so I'm happy for them.

JC: So how did you start up again with the WWF in '88?

MJ: Well, we called back because AWA wanted us for a 2 year contract, where if we had signed it, we would have been bound to them for 2 years. So we called up to let them know that if they had any interest in us, they needed to let us know or something, because we were fixed to sign a contract that would tie us down for 2 years. And they called back in a couple days and gave us another shot and everything worked out great for a while.

JC: How did you feel about your position in the company and the way you were being treated in the beginning?

MJ: Well he's got so many guys there, he's got 70 guys that he's got to deal with everyday. And he can't devote all his time to one particular team or any one guy because if he's negotiating with us one day, he's got 70 other guys in line knocking at his door wanting to know something. He's in a tough position so I can't hold anything against him. I do think he's done a great job, I mean he's been put to the test many times. A lot of times people say, 'Because this happened, the WWF's going to fall apart,' but he always manages to keep his shoulders up and keep it going and I think he'll keep it going for a long time, as long as he wants to keep it going.

JC: But do you think the WWF is a good long term thing for the wrestling business?

MJ: I think so because he's got his act together, he knows what he's doing. When it gets burned out here, he's got the foreign markets ready to go and he can take it over there for a while and let it cool down here and then come right back and start it up again. He knows what he's doing.

JC: But the houses and TV ratings are at all-time lows now. The crowds at Madison Square Garden are now so bad that Vince is scared of losing it, so that's why he's going to have the next WrestleMania there. You never know, you just might be there.

MJ: I certainly hope so, I could use a couple bucks. Except the one that I have here at the house running around shitting on the floor. Buck's my dog's name!

JC: Your matches with Tully Blanchard and Arn Anderson back in '89 were probably the best tag team series that the WWF has had in the past 3-4 years. But I don't think that the WWF put any heat behind the matches or tried to keep the series going. Do you feel that way about your matches with Tully and Arn?

MJ: I would say they're probably the best team we've ever wrestled and we had some really good matches and I enjoyed it, but there were several times they could have really built something up. I don't know what the reason was, but there were several times Shawn and I both thought that with a little help from the people that control the TV, we could have really had some good stuff going on. With the Rougeaus one time, with the Brain Busters, and we had some really good matches with the Powers of Pain.

JC: I remember some of those matches with Barbarian and Warlord where you were flying 20 feet in the air from those backdrops. But do you like working with those big guys any more or less than working with the guys your size?

MJ: It doesn't really matter to me, I like to mix it up. But then again, when your wrestling the bigger guys, you're going to get a few extra lumps and bruises, but I'm used to that. I grew up that way. I didn't grow up in the best part of the city. My family went through times where we didn't have a whole lot of money, it wasn't real easy getting meals. It was tough growing up and I try to put that behind me because there were some bad memories. But you never really can forget, when you're going hungry, freezing winters, you never forget. I don't know if it affects me anymore, except for the fact that I can not look at another person and think that they could ever kick my ass because I've come through hell to get here and I ain't going to be put back. I've been from the bottom and I haven't been to the top of the mountain yet, but I've been up the mountain farther than I ever dreamed when I was kid, that I would ever get out of where I was and once I got out of there, I never wanted to go back. I may get knocked down, but I will get up and keep coming. One thing my father taught me is what you finish you get credit for, not what you started.

JC: You had a good teacher there. Why do you feel did Vince and the Rockers?

MJ: I think it was a couple of things. When Curt Hennig was gone and a couple of other guys, the heels were gone. So they needed a top heel and they saw it in Shawn Michaels, which is a natural for him. I also think Shawn, himself, wanted to go on as singles. We had talked about it before and that was his ultimate goal, was to later on, become a singles.

JC: Were there also some legit heat between you and Shawn? I've heard of several incidents where you guys came to blows, I believe one of the times was in a hotel in Denver.

MJ: There were several things. When you're around somebody 24 hours a day, 7 days a week, it's hard to do. We did it well for 5 years, but there is just no way you can't have differences and sometimes one of us is feeling bad or both are feeling bad and something comes up, where the only way you want to settle it is to swing at each other and we did that several times.

JC: What would happen after your fights with him.

MJ: Well, I'll tell you what, I like Shawn, although I don't like him anything like I used to, but he can't fight, he's a good wrestler, but he can't fight.

JC: Do you feel like Shawn took advantage of some things and basically just forgot about you?

MJ: A lot of people came to me and said, 'Hey, Shawn stabbed you in the back,' because our partnership was a business. We talked about things together, we agreed on things together, every business move was made together. Now when this thing came up to split up, I was kind of left out in the dark. One time we were doing a commercial for a cereal, I don't know if it ever came out or not, Superstars Cereal, where there were several other teams involved in the commercial and they were getting twice the pay we were. We called and made a complaint about it and they (WWF) said they didn't know anything. Shawn said to me, 'F___ this, let's quit.' I said, if you mean it, I'll stick with you, were a team, if you want to quit, we'll quit. So he said, 'Yeah, call them and tell them.' So I did and I got a call back from Vince or Pat Patterson and they said, 'Hey look, you're welcome to stay and wrestle singles if you want.' Well I said, no, I'm doing the same thing as Shawn.' And they said, 'Well Shawn's not leaving, he's already told us that was your decision.' So there was a little plot there, I believe.

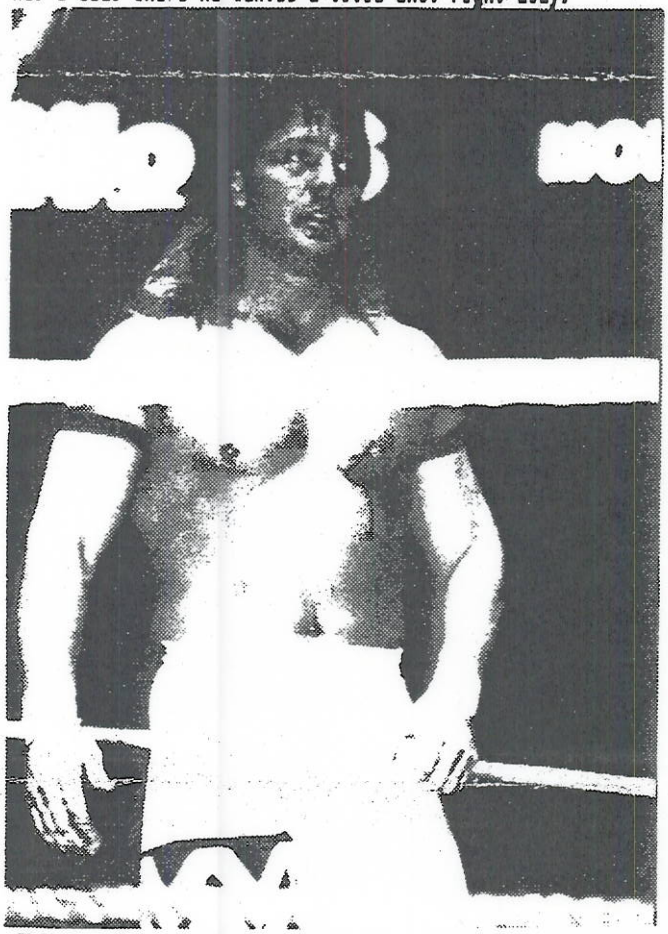
JC: I don't know how close you were with him, but after starting at the bottom with him and then, together, moving up in the business, were you hurt by this because it was kind of like he put business over your friendship.

MJ: Emotionally, it was very disappointing because when Shawn Michaels came into wrestling, he didn't know how to talk business, every business deal made was by me. He couldn't open his mouth in front of a promoter, everything had to be done by me. Not just wrestling, just things in

life in general, you know I had to show him everything. It was like leading a baby around by the hand and then when he got to the right position, he just kind of left me, he forgot how he got where he is. Shawn is probably, I can't think of anybody who's a bigger egomaniac, but while we were friends, I overlooked it. But now that he's kind of screwed me over a few times, I don't care, he's a big egomaniac, you know some people just don't learn. You can kick their ass and they'll shut up for two weeks, but then they'll be right back to their old self.

JC: When Shawn started getting his big heel push, what were the plans for you and the expected feud between you two?

MJ: I had no idea what was going on. He had a new contract worked out, another thing I didn't know about. The contract had a deal where he wanted a title shot right away.



This interview with Marty Jannetty was conducted by John Clark via telephone from his home near Orlando, Florida, on September 23. The above was only Part I of the interview, as the next issue will feature Part II where he discusses the many reasons why he left the WWF, all the different legal problems he has been involved in over the past year, his experimenting with steroids, the legit heat that exists between him and his former tag team partner Shawn Michaels, and what his future in this business looks like. Hopefully you have enjoyed learning more about him and I hope you once again join us for the next issue (available Oct. 10), and until then, THANKS FOR YOUR SUPPORT.

WRESTLING FLYER NEWSLETTER INTERVIEW WITH TERRY TAYLOR
THE FINAL PART BY JOHN CLARK

JC: How do you compare Ric Flair to Hulk Hogan?

TT: Well they're two different situations, but for a guy who's the same size as Flair, he's the best to me that there's ever been. But if you talk about guys that excite people, that have exposed wrestling to more people than anybody else, a guy who's put more asses in more seats than anybody over the last decade, you've got to say Hulk. I mean he was good at what he did, people believed in him, they loved him, he was great. Flair was a heel so he made the people hate him and he sold a lot of tickets to people waiting to see him get his ass kicked, and he did it better than anybody.

JC: If you look back ten years ago, the NWA was selling out buildings and packing the houses. But the past couple years have been horrible. You've gone to the Civic Center in Philly over the last year and the crowds were dropping so low that they were down in the 600s. What is your opinion about why somewhere along the way, the houses and TV just kept going down and down, now at all-time lows?

TT: My opinion is that they have the same guys on top that they had five years ago when it went under. There's a few different faces, but I mean, there's a lot of the guys here that were figured in and wrestling.... To me, I'm not knocking anybody because I'd like to come back to WCW or maybe the WWF, I don't know, but when you think about, it's the same group of guys wrestling the same guys, it's just different combinations, all the time.

JC: I'm wondering where wrestling will be able to develop it's major stars of the future because there's really no place for either WWF or WCW to breed or train them. After Hulk and Flair leave, where will the next stars come from?

TT: That's true. They're trying to make Van Hammer a superstar and the people have already seen through them. That doesn't mean that he won't get good, it's just that he was exposed too early. How do you pay a guy to learn, how can they afford to pay guys to learn for six or eight months to where they are credible enough to get in the ring, when they're not drawing anything back? I mean that investment needs to be made, but how does one justify that?

JC: What are some of the areas that you've wanted to work for, but really haven't gotten a chance to?

TT: I would like to get in Japan just because I like the way they work. They work hard, they work snug. I worked for Baba two years ago and I didn't want to burn that bridge because the NWA sent me over for that NWA tournament (where Masa Chono won the belt). Those guys seem to want me to come back. Bigelow's taking some time off, Vader's taking

time off, so I'm hoping to slide in now. Over there, they wrestle my style. They do some incredible stuff that I can't do, but I can do some stuff that accentuates what they can do, if that makes sense? My whole career I've just been good at making other people look good and in Japan, that's a real plus because it's just a different style and over there I'm a big guy. The guys weigh more, but I'm usually three or four inches taller.

JC: You've been good putting other guys over, but as you said, over there they just want a guy who works hard.

TT: If you work hard over there, that's all Japanese people want, is for you to work hard. Whether you're cleaning a hotel room or driving a taxi. The little old ladies that clean the rooms have got hunch backs because they're bent over scrubbing the floors everyday, they run from the room to the cart and back. These are 60 year old ladies, they're just glad to work. They don't expect to get paid just for showing up, which to me is what's wrong with our society. Nobody has any integrity hardly anymore.

JC: Do think that is one of the problems with the business today, some of these guys who have no respect for the business and just want a payday?

TT: I like what we do, I still love the business. I think somebody that gets in the business and makes a $100,000 their first year doesn't appreciate it, cause they've never bled, they've never driven 300 miles each way to wrestle in front of a hundred people, they never wrestled with injuries. The business now has gotten to where if you're injured, you just don't go to work. I've wrestled when I couldn't get out of my car, that was for Watts against Jake. I physically couldn't get out of my car. I drove to the place, the security guys got me out of the car, I had torn some muscles in my groin, I couldn't get my left leg out of my car. In WCW, I've missed four matches in two years. The reason I missed those days was because I had a knee operation. And I would have made those, not to wrestle, but they told me I didn't have to. I came back six days after that scope knee surgery to get beat by Rick Rude in a heel against heel. It's just stuff like that that just makes my job kind of hard. And I was booked on an average of 23 days a month. No matter what, if my name was on the card, I made it.

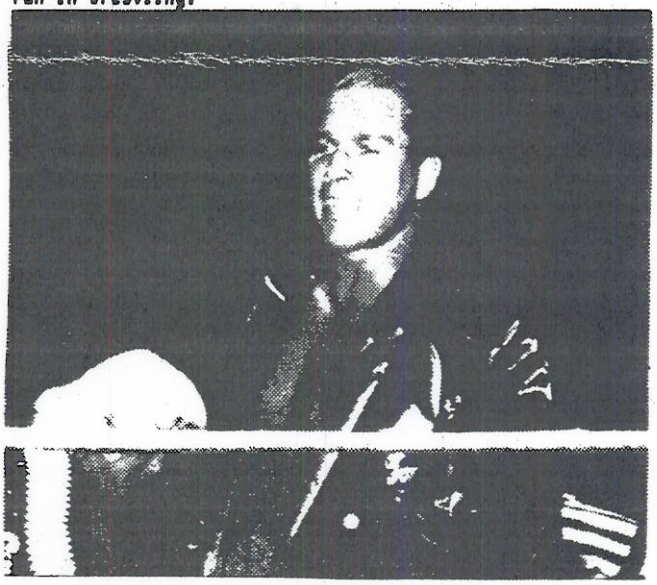
JC: Dedication. It's just too bad that they're isn't more of a reward for the genuine guys in the business. Look at the way you've been treated after all you've gone through. And you're one of the more talented workers.

TT: Thanks. I mean I just figured if I did what I was told, didn't miss any days, had a good attitude, stayed in shape, never complained, that I would have a job forever. And I've just learned a lesson suddenly that that's not the case. I paid my dues, still paying them, it looks like. But I like what I do. With the economy like it is, nobody's just ready to snap me up as a color commentator or sports shows, stuff that I really want to do. I've got a few irons in the fire, I may go back to school. I'm thinking about going to chiropractic school because I do all the adjustments on the guys in the locker room now, haven't crippled anybody yet.

JC: At this point in time, what do you see in the future for Terry Taylor?

TT: What I think I'm going to do is, I went over and wrestled in the NWA tournament, and after my first match over there, they asked me to come back in October. So I think I may have a future over in Japan. I mean I saved my money, so I'm cool. I can't retire, but it's not like I have to kill myself to get a job. It's pretty cool now because, when WCW let me go, I was like, well what am I going to do? I've been doing well because a lot of independent promoters have called and they seem to be interested in Terry Taylor. It's not steady like it was, but I think it's going to great. Jim Cornette and I have been on the phone back and forth. They're going to be running in November a lot. When I go to Japan in October, I'll have done a TV for them and I think I'm supposed to go work for Dallas, Global Wrestling. I mean there's a lot of people out there that have been calling. My thing in Japan is first and foremost, I'd like to get 12 to 15 weeks a year over there guaranteed, then I wouldn't have to work over here.

EDITOR: This interview was conducted in late August. Since this interview, Terry received a call from J.J. Dillon, assistant to Vince McMahon of the WWF. They flew him up to the TV tapings on 9/20 and 9/21 in Winnepeg, MB, and Brandan, MB, respectively. They had a meeting and have decided to hire Terry. He will be a heel under the name, Terrific Terry Taylor. In that first night of TV, Taylor beat Jim Brunzell in one match and Jim Powers in another. The WWF is interested in using him for his abilities and talent, not as a cartoon character. The Wrestling Flyer Newsletter wishes him the best in what could be his final run in wrestling.



WORLD WRESTLING FEDERATION

TV tapings were held on 9/20 and 9/21 in Winnepeg, MB, and Brandon, MB, respectively. There are a bunch of new faces in the WWF, which was evident at these tapings. Matt Borne, who most recently wrestled as Big Josh in WCW, was given a "tryout." Steve Armstrong is in with a cowboy type gimmick and he's called Lance Cassidy. Terry Taylor is in as a heel and he's Terrific, aptly named by J.J. and Vince. There is a new character called Maxa Million Moves, who is thought to be Paul Diamond, but that's not confirmed. Also at these tapings, Sgt Slaughter's new role was introduced. He will no longer wrestle, as he is now a road agent, joining other retired stars such as Rene Goulet, Jay Strongbow, and Tony Garea, in handling the money and deals with the arenas and basically overseeing the organization on the road. That will be his hidden role, but he will be acknowledged as a law and order type referee, like Ole Anderson.

Crush will be taking the place of Hawk in the LOD tag team with Animal. They haven't announced this on US TV yet, but they have acknowledged it on European TV in anticipation of the tour over there. In Auburn Hills, MI, on 9/19, Animal, Crush, and Paul Ellering beat the Genius, Beau Beverly, and the Brooklyn Brawler in a less than average match. The important note from this match was that Crush got a much bigger crowd response than his tag team partners.

The WWF has made several calls to Captain Lou Albano offering him some type of managerial/commentator role. The only problem is that Lou only wants to work part-time with minimal time on the road. Albano has also let WCW know that he is available and that he would look at all options. He'll be making a decision about the whole matter within a couple of weeks.

Dutch Mantel has been promised by the WWF that he will have a job with them in the very near future. Dutch is good friends with Mark Calaway (Undertaker) and he has him to thank for his entry into the company. They are still working on a gimmick for him, but it has been reported that it will resemble something like what Ron Bass was doing when he worked for the WWF about four years ago.

Bob Backlund's deal with the WWF is now solid and he will be given a big push. There is a possibility of him getting a belt, depending on how over he gets with the fans. They started airing vintage footage of him on TV over the 9/26 weekend. They want to slowly re-introduce him to the fans.

Survivor Series emanates from the Richfield Coliseum in Richfield, OH, which was the site of the first two Thanksgiving night PPVs, on Wed. November 25. In the feature contest, Razor Ramon will team up with Ric Flair to meet the Ultimate Maniacs, Randy Savage & Ultimate Warrior. In other matches, Kamala meets the Undertaker, and Big Bossman goes at it with Nailz in a Nightstick Match. It looks as though they have changed around the concept of this once exciting PPV. There is word that there will be either one or two elimination matches, but that may not be the case.

The last Madison Square Garden house show on Sept. 11 drew 7,900 as the WWF returned there after a six month absence. That is a very poor crowd for the New York market. Nassau Coliseum in Uniondale, Long Island, had been drawing the best WWF houses in the country with attendance for some shows this year being in the 12,000 range. It is almost definite that next year's WrestleMania will emanate from MSG, as Vince is scared of losing the building. McMahon was originally going to run WM9 in Tampa, FL, then switched it over to England, but it looks like he's bringing it back to the states again. The money might be great over there, but Vince can't afford to lose his hub in Manhattan, which was once regarded as the mecca of all professional wrestling. To make matters worse, the MSG network has pulled the plug on airing those WWF Garden shows in the future due to low ratings. Linda McMahon wasn't a happy camper at that last MSG show for the difficulties described above.

Mondo Kleen, who most recently wrestled in the IWCCW, will get a tryout with the WWF at the next tapings in October, which is on 10/12 and 10/13 in Saskatoon, MB, and Regina, MB, respectively. The tapings following those are on 10/26, 10/27, and 10/28 in Springfield, IL, Terre Haute, IN, and Louisville, KY. They will tape a Main Event one of those nights, which will air in early November on Fox TV.

One group of wrestlers will be overseas from 9/24 through 10/2 with seven shows in Germany and two shows in England. The 9/29 house show will be held before a sold out crowd (tickets were all gone in less than a week) of 12,000 fans in Birmingham, England, with Ric Flair vs Bret Hart, Randy Savage vs Papa Shango, Disasters vs Beverlys, Rick Martel vs Virgil, Genius vs Tito Santana, Bushwhackers vs Money Inc, and Skinner & Kato vs Animal & Crush. The WWF will make yet another tour of England in the latter part of November. Ticket prices over there are usually $50 through $20, translating into houses that gross around $300,000 plus all the merchandise they sell at the event, which is

the major reason Titan does house shows anyway.

WWF at the Spectrum in Philadelphia, PA, on 9/19 before about 6,000 paid fans: Nasty Boys beat High Energy. Tatanka beat Shawn Michaels by DQ when Sensational Sherri Martel interfered. Repo Man pinned Tito Santana with his feet on the ropes. Razor Ramon beat Randy Savage by countout. Nailz beat Big Bossman. Natural Disasters beat Money Inc by countout, but earlier in the match, Money Inc pinned the Disasters, but the match went on when the ref found out that the wrong man was in the ring for the Disasters tag team. Undertaker pinned Papa Shango after a tombstone.

WWF Superstars TV taping held at the Winnepeg Arena in Winnepeg, MB, on 9/20 before about 7,000 fans: Big Bossman beat Nailz by DQ. Skinner beat Todd Overbow. Money Inc beat Bobby Saint Lauraunt (or something like that) & Jim Powers. British Bulldog beat Jim Peterson. Razor Ramon beat Steve May. Maxa Million Moves beat Jerry Hutz. High Energy beat Ken Johnson (ironically, that's Slick's real name) & Brian Jule. Nailz beat Eric Freese. Lance Cassidy beat Tom Stone. Terrific Terry Taylor beat Jim Brunzell. Matt Borne pinned Bill Jordan. Earthquake pinned Ted DiBiase. Bret Hart beat Bill Jordan. Shawn Michaels beat Steve Gillespie. Big Bossman beat Barry Horowitz. Natural Disasters beat Tom Stone & Bill Jordan. Terrific Terry Taylor beat Jim Powers. High Energy beat Beverly Brothers. Barry Horowitz beat Brad Hullman. British Bulldog beat Kamala by countout. Tatanka beat Brian Jule. Crush beat Ken Johnson. Nailz beat Scott Szouka. Rick Martel beat Butch Banks. Papa Shango beat Victor Reed. Razor Ramon beat Randy Savage by countout. Ultimate Warrior beat Ric Flair by DQ.

WWF Challenge TV tapings at the Keystone Arena in Brandon, MB, on 9/21 before 6,000 (5,100 paid) fans: In the non-squash matches, Ultimate Warrior pinned Kamala, Razor Ramon beat Bret Hart, Randy Savage pinned Papa Shango, and Ric Flair beat the British Bulldog.

WWF in Stuttart, Germany, on 9/24: Bushwhackers beat Kato & Genius. IRS pinned Virgil. Bret Hart pinned Rick Martel. Crush & Animal beat Beverly Brothers. Disasters beat Papa Shango & Skinner. Randy Savage pinned Ted DiBiase. Ric Flair beat Tito Santana.

WWF at the Civic Auditorium in Omaha, NE, on 9/24: Repo Man beat Jim Powers. Shawn Michaels beat Jim Brunzell (no Tatanka). High Energy beat Double Trouble. Bossman beat Nailz by DQ. British Bulldog pinned Mountie. Razor Ramon pinned Jim Duggan (subbing for Undertaker who injured his collar bone). Ultimate Warrior pinned Kamala.

WWF in Dortmund, Germany, on 9/25 and the results are the same for WWF in Hamburg, Germany, on 9/26: Virgil beat the Genius. Bushwhackers beat Skinner & Kato. Rick Martel beat Tito Santana. Disasters beat Money Inc. Bret Hart pinned Papa Shango. Crush & Animal beat Beverly Brothers. Ric Flair beat Randy Savage.

WWF at the USF Sundome in Tampa, FL, on 9/26 before about 4,000 fans: Nasty Boy Jerry Sags pinned Repo Man with his feet on the ropes for leverage. High Energy beat Double Trouble (subbing for Nasties as Knobbs injured his knee). Razor Ramon pinned Jim Duggan (subbing for Undertaker). British Bulldog beat Shawn Michaels by DQ when Sherri interfered. Tatanka pinned Mountie. Big Bossman beat Nailz by DQ, same old stuff. Ultimate Warrior beat Kamala.

WORLD CHAMPIONSHIP WRESTLING

In a surprise turn of events at the 9/21 Center Stage TV tapings in Atlanta, Terry Gordy & Steve Williams lost the unified WCW/NWA Tag Team Championships to the unexpected re-teaming of Dustin Rhodes & Barry Windham. After about 18 minutes of action, Windham pinned Gordy after Rhodes had administered a bulldog on "Bam Bam." Gordy & Williams will be going back to Japan and will stay over there until the Halloween Havoc PPV, where they will meet the Steiners. Top sources have stated that Watts awarded the belts to Rhodes & Windham to piss off the Steiners, two guys with contracts that makes them a lot of money, to the dismay of Mr. Watts. Bruno Sammartino did color commentary during the matches at this taping, as Brian Pillman pinned Brad Armstrong, Ron Simmons & Barry Windham beat Jake Roberts & Barbarian by DQ, Nikita Koloff beat Vinnie Vegas, Brad Armstrong pinned Bobby Eaton, Jake Roberts pinned Dustin Rhodes, Marcus Bagwell & Shane Douglas beat Vegas & Dallas Page.

Bill Watts has decided to abolish the top-rope rule that he imposed on all WCW wrestlers when he took over as VP of wrestling operations this past June. This rule has been under much scrutiny ever since it was enforced and it appears as though the light-heavyweights will once again be given the chance to shine at what they do best.

Butch Reed, who made his return to the group at the 9/2 Clash, has been fired as he no-shoved the TV tapings in Macon, GA, on 9/15. He was going to have a major role in the company that was going to lead up to a series of title matches with Ron Simmons, therefore that no-show will most likely effect the rest of his career. There has been rumors that Tony Atlas will be coming in to fill "the position" that Butch Reed was to have, but nothing is confirmed.

WCW at the Civic Center in Philadelphia, PA, on 9/19 before 1,500 (1,000 paid) fans: Dustin Rhodes pinned Vinnie Vegas. Van Hammer beat Dallas Page. Barbarian pinned Barry Windham. The Steiners beat Dick Slater & Greg Valentine. Ricky Steamboat pinned Super Invader with a high cross body off the second rope. Terry Gordy & Steve Williams beat Arn Anderson & Bobby Eaton when Williams pinned Eaton after a running powerslam. Erik Watts pinned Mean Mark Canterbury. Sting & Nikita Koloff beat Jake Roberts & Rick Rude by DQ with Madusa interfering and Sting threw Madusa to the mat. Ron Simmons pinned Steve Austin after a surprise powerslam.

WCW at the Omni in Atlanta, GA, on 9/20 before about 2,000 fans: Erik Watts beat Mean Mark Canterbury. The Steiners beat Valentine & Slater. Barbarian pinned Barry Windham. Gordy & Williams beat Anderson & Eaton when Williams pinned Eaton. Brad Armstrong & Marcus Bagwell beat Brian Pillman & Scotty Flamingo when Bagwell pinned Flamingo. Nikita Koloff & Sting beat Jake Roberts & Super Invader when Invader was pinned by Koloff.

WCW at the Bayfront Center in St. Petersburg, FL, on 9/25 before about 1,600 fans: Shane Douglas & Erik Watts beat Vinnie Vegas & Diamond Dallas Page as Douglas pinned Page.

Van Hammer pinned Super Invader. Greg Valentine & Dick Slater beat Tom Zenk & Marcus Bagwell when Valentine pinned Bagwell. Brian Pillman pinned Brad Armstrong in the best match of the night using the ropes for leverage. Barry Windham beat Barbarian by DQ when Cactus Jack interfered. Dustin Rhodes & Ricky Steamboat beat Arn Anderson & Bobby Eaton when Rhodes pinned Eaton. Ron Simmons & Nikita Koloff beat Jake Roberts & Cactus Jack (wrestling with injured groin, not himself) when Simmons pinned Cactus. After the match, Barbarian came down and attacked Simmons.

WCW in Charleston, SC, on 9/27: Erik Watts, Van Hammer, Marcus Bagwell beat Bobby Eaton, Vinnie Vegas, Dallas Page. Dustin Rhodes pinned Dick Slater. Brian Pillman pinned Brad Armstrong. Tom Zenk beat Greg Valentine. Barry Windham beat Barbarian by DQ. Ricky Steamboat pinned Steve Austin. Scott Steiner pinned Arn Anderson. Ron Simmons & Nikita Koloff beat Jake Roberts & Cactus Jack when Simmons pinned Cactus.

THE INDEPENDENT SCENE

Dennis Coralluzzo's WWA held a show on 9/26 in Clementon, NJ, with 200. Chris Evans beat Ed the Razor. Bobby Simms beat the Pharoh in a First Blood Match. Gus the Greek beat Lord of Darkness Pain. WWA Junior Champion Chris Candito beat Scotty Flamingo on a reverse decision. Candito was pinned by Flamingo, but after Flamingo was awarded the belt, the ref noticed that Candito's feet were on the ropes so he reversed the decision. This 17 minute match was the best of the night. Boy Gone Bad beat WWA Champion Spider in a non-title, 2-3 falls, hair match. Spider won the second fall, but BGB won the first and third fall to win the contest. After the match, Spider's (Glen Ruth) mask was removed (his face was never shown as they put a towel over it) and he left that night, a bald man. They return to Clementon on 10/24 with Spider vs Tank, who aided BGB in his victory over Spider....Dino Sanna's WWWA held their first card since those two infamous shows in July on 9/24 in Schamocan, PA. Jimmy Snuka was their champion as of their last card, but now the Warlord is suddenly their champion. The promoter told people that Warlord had beaten Snuka to win the belt, but Snuka has no idea that this happened. But don't worry Jimmy, you don't have amnesia or anything, because it didn't take place. Maybe it did in the promoter's head, though. There was a similar situation with the WWWA Intercontinental Championship as Coalcracker Jack was their champ as of those last shows in July, but now Jack Hammer has the belt, strange. That card on 9/24 saw Kerry Von Erich pin the Warlord to win the belt that Warlord found out he had won, about forty minutes before he wrestled Von Erich. Also on the card, Tony Atlas won the Intercontinental belt from Jack Hammer, WWWA Ladies Champ Heidi Lee Morgan beat Artic Fox, Little Louie beat Tiger Jackson in a midgets match, Marty Jannetty beat Paul Roma by DQ, WWWA Tag Champs Steve Savage & Jim the Messenger beat Stars & Stripes, and Tony Stetson beat Johnny Hotbody by DQ. The WWWA held another card two days later on 9/26 in Lansdale, PA, before about 380 fans. Johnny Rebel beat the Anchor with an impressive legdrop off the top rope. Jack Hammer beat Tony Atlas by DQ when Atlas threw the ref to the mat. Heidi Lee Morgan beat Artic Fox. Paul Roma beat Marty Jannetty by DQ when Marty used the cane of Roma's manager, Royce Profit (Tom Casadi, the Cornette/Paul E./McMahon want-to-be). Tony Stetson battled Johnny Hotbody all over the school gym in a bloody brawl that ended in a double-countout. During intermission, Kerry Von Erich was taking pictures in the ring with the fans and was attacked while he was leaving by WWWA Tag Champs Savage & Messenger. Kerry juiced heavily and was taken to the back. It was announced later that Kerry & Kevin Von Erich will wrestle Savage & Messenger on the next card. Savage & Messenger then wrestled and defeated Larry Winters & Dennis Diamond. In the main event, Warlord pinned Kerry Von Erich to once again become WWWA Champion, but this time he knew about winning it...Tod Gordon's ECW has two shows coming up, the first taking place at the Kensington Youth Association Building in NE Philly on 10/2 with ECW Champ Jimmy Snuka vs Ivan Koloff, Nikolai Volkoff vs Don Muroco, Terry Taylor (Stevie Wonderful in his corner) vs Tony Stetson (long-time foe Johnny Hotbody in his corner) in a match where either Stetson, Hotbody, or Wonderful will retire from wrestling, and other matches on the card feature JT Smith, Sandman, Super Destroyers, Larry Winters, Jimmy Jannetty, and Glenn Osbourne. The next show on 10/3 at the Tabor Rams Youth Association Building in NE Philly will feature Don Muroco vs Snuka, Volkoff vs Vladimir Markov, and Terry Taylor.

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